



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office
1435 Win Hentschel Blvd.Suite B105
West Lafayette, IN 47906-4145(765) 494-8371
nass-in@nass.usda.gov

Released: May 30, 2006

Vol. 56, No. 22

CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 28

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Cold and wet weather in the early part of May has led to a theme of many farmers considering replanting corn and soybeans according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Hard crusting of wet soils along with cooler temperatures has led to poor germination in many fields. Spotty showers continue to cause a delay in the planting of corn and soybeans. Winter wheat is headed in much of the state and looking good. First cutting of hay and alfalfa have begun to be mowed and harvested.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 3.5 days suitable for field work. Eighty-nine percent of the intended **corn** acreage has been **planted** compared with 98 percent last year and 85 percent for the 5-year average. Seventy-one percent of the corn acreage has **emerged** compared to 89 percent last year and 73 percent for the 5-year average. Fifty-eight percent of the **soybean** acreage is **planted** compared to 88 percent for last year and 68 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 66 percent of the soybean acreage is planted in the north, 60 percent in the central, and 38 percent in the south. Thirty percent of the soybean acreage has **emerged** compared to 61 percent last year and 51 percent for the 5-year average.

Ninety-five percent of the **winter wheat** acreage is headed compared with 84 percent last year and 90 percent for the 5-year average.

Major activities during the week included: planting corn and soybeans, spraying chemicals, chopping haylage, cutting and bailing hay.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 17 percent excellent, 67 percent good, 14 percent fair and 2 percent poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition. Feedlots remain muddy.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn Planted	89	77	98	85
Corn Emerged	71	56	89	73
Soybeans Planted	58	37	88	68
Soybeans Emerged	30	15	61	51
Winter Wheat Headed	95	67	84	90

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	3	9	35	47	6
Winter Wheat	1	4	18	55	22
Pasture	0	2	14	67	17

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	5
Short	0	0	16
Adequate	60	47	71
Surplus	40	53	8
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	3
Short	2	1	13
Adequate	66	65	78
Surplus	32	34	6
Days Suitable	3.5	0.9	6.0

CONTACT INFORMATION

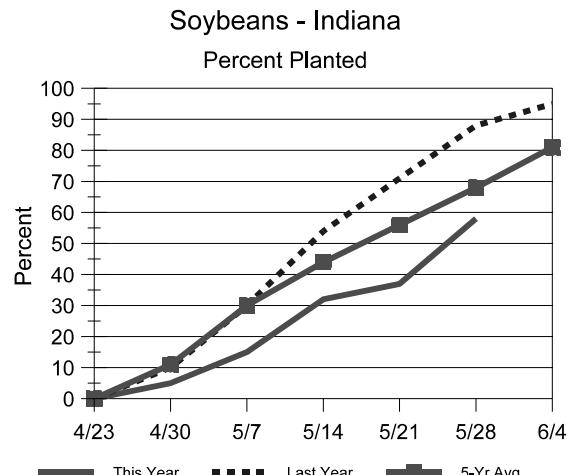
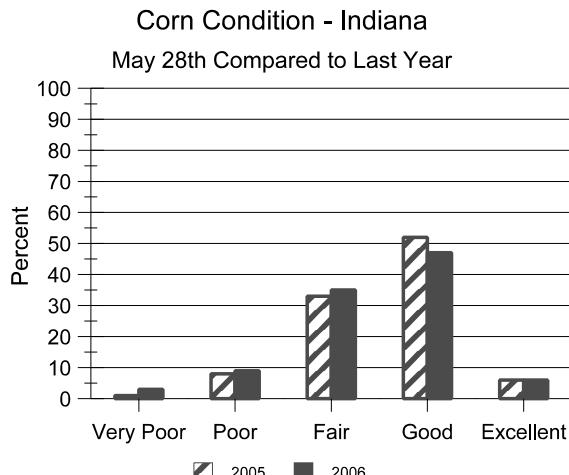
--Greg Preston, Director

--Grant Reiff, Student Intern

E-Mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Seedling Blights

- Stands may be poor in soggy fields and predispose plantings to late season problems.

The seemingly constant rain that has fallen on much of Indiana since the afternoon of May 10 may create problems for corn and soybean seedlings trying to emerge from waterlogged soils. Not only are soils wet, they are cool. Over the weekend, bare soil temperatures at a 4-in. depth dropped below 55°F in central and northern Indiana. This sets the stage for seedling blight. Fields sown shortly before the rains commenced are at greatest risk.

A number of common fungi can infect corn and soybean seedlings. Some of these are associated with seed itself (fungi that cause ear or seed rots); others are soil inhabitants. Many of the fungi that cause root rot are "opportunistic" pathogens. If the plant is generally healthy and growing vigorously, they don't do much damage. Natural wounds occur where branch roots emerge, and nutrients leaching from these wounds can stimulate spores of soilborne fungi to germinate, which can lead to infection. Under good growing conditions, these wounds heal quickly, before the pathogens gain a foothold. When growing conditions are adverse—cold and wet soil, crusting, etc.—the young roots are more vulnerable to infection. Wounds do not heal quickly, nor can the plant produce new roots fast enough to offset the loss of roots to

rotting. The low oxygen conditions in saturated soil favor the development of Pythium species, a group of fungus-like organisms that cause seedling blight. Under adverse conditions, the plant may succumb to seedling blight, also called damping-off. The seedling may be killed before it emerges from the soil, or shortly after emergence. Even if the plant survives, its growth will be slowed down and it will produce little or no grain or seed.

In fields that appear to have some problem with seedling blight, dig up plants in several areas of the field and carefully wash the roots, so they can be examined for rot. Rot symptoms may range from a pale red to pink discoloration to a much darker color, associated with a mushy cortex. Only a small portion of a root may show symptoms, but if the lesion girdles the root, the apparently healthy tissue distal to the lesion may no longer be able to provide moisture and nutrients for the shoot. Symptoms of root rot may not appear for several more days.

Phytophthora rot of soybean is a widespread problem in Indiana, mainly in heavier, poorly drained soils. *Phytophthora sojae* causes a root rot later in the season, but can also cause seedling blight. Some soybean varieties carry race-specific genes for resistance (*Rps* genes), which provide protection throughout the season. Sporangia of *Phytophthora sojae* require a soil temperature of at least 59°F to

(Continued on Page 4)

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday May 28, 2006

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data										Accumulation				
	Air Temperature					Precip.					Avg 4 in	April 1, 2006 thru May 28, 2006			
	Temperature		Precip.			Soil		Precipitation				GDD	Base	50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total				DFN
Northwest (1)															
Chalmers_5W	88	39	63	-3	1.25	2		9.53	+2.37	23	380	-71			
Francesville	85	36	63	-2	1.24	2		8.45	+1.61	24	360	-33			
Valparaiso_AP_I	85	36	63	+0	0.59	2		5.02	-2.41	20	399	+30			
Wanatah	87	35	60	-3	0.53	2	65	6.39	-0.70	21	318	-6			
Winamac	85	36	61	-3	1.21	2	63	7.99	+1.15	18	369	-24			
North Central (2)															
Plymouth	85	33	59	-6	0.96	2		7.16	-0.11	23	322	-92			
South_Bend	84	33	61	-2	0.45	2		6.67	-0.03	27	371	+22			
Young_America	87	38	64	-1	1.16	2		8.55	+1.71	22	421	+32			
Northeast (3)															
Columbia_City	83	35	60	-4	0.60	2	59	7.94	+1.16	24	306	-17			
Fort_Wayne	82	36	62	-2	1.04	2		9.52	+3.06	24	385	+17			
West Central (4)															
Greencastle	86	38	63	-3	0.92	2		9.69	+1.70	22	420	-75			
Perrysville	90	40	67	+4	0.44	1	66	7.54	+0.03	22	501	+66			
Spencer_Ag	87	42	65	+0	1.36	2		10.61	+2.23	26	475	+35			
Terre_Haute_AFB	87	41	67	+2	0.85	1		8.27	+0.30	24	542	+51			
W_Lafayette_6NW	88	39	65	+2	0.59	2	66	8.30	+1.06	24	436	+41			
Central (5)															
Eagle_Creek_AP	85	42	66	-1	0.87	3		9.82	+2.48	24	526	+46			
Greenfield	84	40	63	-3	1.04	2		12.82	+4.88	28	423	-12			
Indianapolis_AP	85	43	66	+0	0.54	2		9.05	+1.71	25	540	+60			
Indianapolis_SE	85	38	62	-4	0.67	3		10.36	+2.59	25	416	-44			
Tipton_Ag	84	37	61	-3	1.25	2	67	9.16	+1.80	30	363	+5			
East Central (6)															
Farmland	84	35	61	-3	1.17	3	64	9.21	+2.23	28	325	-21			
New_Castle	83	39	62	-2	0.86	2		10.75	+2.68	25	373	+17			
Southwest (7)															
Evansville	87	48	71	+3	2.44	2		8.63	+0.28	24	720	+85			
Freelandville	88	47	69	+3	1.05	2		8.32	-0.14	23	588	+68			
Shoals	89	39	68	+3	1.80	2		11.13	+2.24	25	572	+70			
Stendal	88	46	71	+4	2.58	2		10.59	+1.44	25	701	+129			
Vincennes_5NE	92	45	68	+3	2.13	2		13.46	+5.00	28	608	+88			
South Central (8)															
Leavenworth	87	45	67	+3	4.42	2		12.84	+3.88	31	587	+79			
Oolitic	87	38	65	+0	1.74	2	68	10.59	+2.22	26	461	+4			
Tell_City	87	52	70	+3	4.28	2		11.52	+2.34	27	726	+138			
Southeast (9)															
Brookville	85	39	63	-2	1.09	3		11.37	+3.29	27	472	+72			
Greensburg	86	42	65	+2	1.03	2		10.92	+2.49	26	516	+70			
Scottsburg	86	39	66	-2	1.53	2		11.71	+3.46	27	567	+43			

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

Copyright 2006: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

The above weather information is provided by AWIS, Inc.
 For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page at
www.awis.com

Seedling Blights (Continued)

germinate, but a temperature of 77°F is much more favorable. The cool soils over much of the state right now suggest that Pythium is more likely to cause seedling blight on soybean than is Phytophthora.

Seed treatment fungicides are designed to reduce losses from the sort of conditions we are now experiencing. If the rain lets up soon and soil temperatures rise, the plants may be okay. If adverse conditions persist for a longer period, the ability of the seed-applied fungicide to protect the young plant diminishes, and there may be some loss of seedlings.

Seedling blight can contribute to stand loss, which raises questions about whether the loss is sufficient to warrant replanting some or all of a field. Bob Nielsen has recently posted two articles about stand establishment evaluation in corn and making replant decisions: <<http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/corn/news/articles.06/CornStandEval-0512.html>>. In soybean

fields with a history of sudden death syndrome (SDS), current conditions are particularly troubling because wet, cool soils are favorable for early infection with the SDS pathogen, *Fusarium solani* f. sp. *glycines*. This fungus can colonize soybean roots soon after planting. Although no symptoms occur early in the season, this colonization of roots sets plants up for SDS to develop later in the summer. SDS symptoms typically appear when plants reach early reproductive stages. A heavy rain in late June or July that saturates the soil will promote the rapid development of leaf symptoms of SDS. For fields that are already planted, there is no remedial action that can be taken to avert development of SDS. Whether the disease actually develops depends on rainfall during the summer and the degree of susceptibility of the soybean variety.

Gregory Shaner and Andreas Westphal, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Purdue University.

The INDIANA CROP & WEATHER REPORT (USPS 675-770), (ISSN 0442-817X) is issued weekly April through November by the USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office, 1435 Win Hentschel Blvd, Suite B105, West Lafayette IN 47906-4145. Second Class postage paid at Lafayette IN. For information on subscribing, send request to above address. POSTMASTER: Send address change to the USDA, NASS, Indiana Field Office, 1435 Win Hentschel Blvd, Suite B105, West Lafayette IN 47906-4145.